



Climate Smart Kingston Commission
420 Broadway
Kingston, NY 12401
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**Minutes to the Climate Smart Kingston Commission Meeting, November 22, 2016
Kingston City Hall, Council Chambers 4:00-5:30 PM**

Commission Members (Voting): Azriel Alleyne, Elizabeth Broad, Pat Courtney Strong, Michael D'Arcy (not present), Emilie Hauser, Nick Hvozda, Kevin McEvoy (Secretary), Sarina Pepper (excused), Karen Sullivan (excused), John Wackman

Commission Members (Non-Voting):

Nolan Bastianelli (not present), Casey Schwarz, Amanda LaValle (Ulster County Dept of the Environment; excused)

Ex-Officio Members: Suzanne Cahill (Kingston Planning Dept. excused), Brenna Robinson (Kingston Community & Economic Development), Julie Noble (Kingston Parks & Recreation, Commission Chairperson), NYS Assembly Member Kevin Cahill represented by Jillian Nodiak (not present), Kingston Common Council (not present), Kingston City Engineer (not present), Joe Chenier (Kingston Dept of Public Works; not present)

Guests: Mayor Steve Noble, Euopa McGovern (HVRC), Jim Yienger and Greg Mumby (Climate Action Associates), Kristen Wilson (City of Kingston Grants Manager);

- I. Welcome Guests and Public Comment:** Chairperson Julie Noble called the meeting to order at 4:08PM. No public comment at this time.
- II. Review and Approval September and October 2016 Meeting Minutes:** Upon motion duly made by Commissioner Nick Hvozda and seconded by Commissioner Pat Courtney Strong, the voting commissioners unanimously approved the minutes to the September and October 2016 meetings.
- III. Old Business**
 - a. Clean Energy Communities Certification**
 - i. Special Guests: Climate Action Associates and Hudson Valley Regional Council (HVRC) - Clean Energy Communities Funding Opportunity Brainstorming:** Greg Mumby described NYSERDA funding opportunities and brainstorming ideas for potential CEC Certification award monies up to \$100,000 with no grant match required. Projects applying to be funded should be proposed to be started within six months and completed within three years. Mayor Steve Noble participated in the question and answer period. Renewable project possibilities were discussed. The commissioners agreed to follow up on the following brainstorming matters as commission action items regarding the funding opportunity:
 - A. Renewables: Public Solar Array:** Public demonstration large solar array on Andy Murphy Neighborhood Center, a municipal Building on Broadway. Commissioners John Wackman and Kevin McEvoy to research regarding specifics.
 - B. Lighting:**
 - 1. LED Streetlights:** Cost of retrofits could be offset by this funding opportunity under discussion. Commissioner Pat Courtney Strong to conduct research.
 - 2. Outdoor Lighting LED retrofits:** (+\$ from Central Hudson) - Mayor Noble is to research.
 - C. Transportation**
 - 1. Bike Share Program:** Bikes and/or bike infrastructure plus Bike/PED Master Plan (Federal Funds Available) will be researched by Kristen Wilson.

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2. Vehicle Retrofits: Retrofit heavy duty trucks to biodiesel. Amanda LaValle and Julie Noble will conduct research.

D. Other

1. Parking: Solar parking canopies at new parking lot Uptown or any other parking areas (Cornell Street, bike parking, handicapped spots and areas for emergency vehicles) will be researched by Kristen Wilson and Commissioners Pat Courtney Strong, and Azriel Alleyne.

2. Upgrade “Energy Hog” Municipal Building: City Hall Energy Retrofit (windows/HVAC/ lights) for which a study has been done; will be researched by Kristen Wilson.

3. Curbside compost pickup/ Compost Program: Compost bins will be researched by Amanda LaValle, Mayor Noble and Chairperson Julie Noble.

ii. **NYS Solar Permitting Progress** (*M. D’Arcy*): Tabled.

iii. **Energy Code Enforcement Training** (*B. Robinson*): Brenna Robinson provided an update regarding code enforcement and code enforcement officer training.

iv. **Benchmarking and Energy Tracking** (*N. Hvozda*): Commissioner Nick Hvozda provided a brief update indicating that the current primary focus is getting set-up in EPA Portfolio Manager in order to meet the Clean Energy Communities benchmarking requirement. We will have assistance from Juan Gutierrez, Regional Energy Star Coordinator for the EPA. The working group will meet with him on the afternoon of Friday, December 2nd. Two steps are required to qualify for the Benchmarking high impact action: 1) Entering a property profile and 12 consecutive months of energy use data for all City of Kingston buildings greater than 1000 square ft, in order to create baseline documentation; 2) Adopting legislation that commits to making City government energy use data available to the public. A draft document entitled “Resolution Adopting Energy Benchmarking Policy Requirements for Certain Municipal Buildings in Kingston” was reviewed with no motions made and no resolutions presented.

v. **Clean Fleet, Energize NY PACE Financing, Climate Smart Communities Certification** (*J.Noble*): Chairperson Julie Noble provided an update on the high impact items completed and submitted and possibilities for further high impact items.

b. Land Use and Transportation

i. **Zoning Code Recommendations Review** (*K. McEvoy*): Discussion was tabled however as an action item, Commissioner McEvoy can provide the recent natural resource zoning document received from the Planning Department to interested commissioners.

ii. **EV Infrastructure and EV Rebates** (*A. LaValle*): Tabled.

c. Materials Management

i. **City drought conditions** (*Mayor Noble*): Mayor Steven Noble gave an update regarding the drought warning in effect reporting that the Cooper Lake Reservoir is now at 65% capacity.

d. Adaptation and Resilience

i. **Fall Climate Adaptive Design Studio Public Presentation** (*Noble/McEvoy/Hauser*): Final session is to be held on December 13, 2016 at City Hall Common Council Chambers and is open to the public. Chairperson Noble encouraged Commissioners to attend.

e. Communication and Outreach

i. **Common Council Liaison** (*M. D’Arcy*): Tabled

IV. New Business

a. **Agendas and Minutes posting directive from Mayor:** The Chairperson reported that Mayor Steven Noble has issued a memo to have all boards, councils and commissions post their agendas and minutes promptly. No motions were made and no resolutions were presented.

b. **Climate Smart Appointments:** Chairperson Julie Noble mentioned that it was likely that Nolan Bastianelli would be resigning from the Commission effective when his resignation letter

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is received. Commissioners were asked to think of students under the age of 21 to recommend to the Mayor to fill his term as an action item.

- c. **December Climate Smart Meeting confirmation:** Chairperson Julie Noble will send a doodle poll to the commission members regarding rescheduling the December meeting due to the holiday season.

V. **Announcements/Communications/Events/Updates (Time Permitting)**

- a. **Municipal Street Light Consortium** (*P. Courtney Strong*): Commissioner Pat Courtney Strong announced an LED Streetlight meeting for municipalities that are ready to move on LEDs, as Kingston is. The meeting is in Scarsdale on November 30th from 3-6:30pm with several folks carpooling from Kingston. The Commissioner recommended that a City representative should attend.
- b. **Sea Level Rise Implementation Learning Group Update** (*Noble/McEvoy/Hauser*): The first session was held on November 10 at Long Dock Beacon. Besides Chairperson Julie Noble and Commissioners Emilie Hauser and Kevin McEvoy, Kingston attendees included Jennifer Schwartz Berky (planner and County legislator) and Scott Herrington. Agenda included emergency services, water infrastructure, land use zoning and community engagement with respect to sea level rise.
- c. **Sidewalk Taskforce:** Kristen Wilson reported that the city is working on revising the Sidewalk Code and that, relevant to the Commission might be the technical language in the code regarding street trees and sidewalk maintenance, particularly in the proposed Sidewalk Improvement District (SID). She mentioned that it is hopeful that this code will go before the Common Council by January. As an action item, Kristen offered to share the code to the Commission.
- d. **Solar in Your Community Challenge:** Azriel Alleyne mentioned a SunShot Initiative "Solar in Your Community Challenge" Webinar to be held on November 29 from 2-3pm. Link is below:

<http://energy.gov/eere/sunshot/sunshot-prize-solar-your-community-challenge>

- VI. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned by unanimous acclamation of the voting members present at 5:37PM.

THE COMMISSION MAKES NO REPRESENTATION REGARDING THE CONTENT OF THESE DRAFT MINUTES WHICH ARE SUBJECT TO COMMISSION APPROVAL AT A LATER DATE.